



Meet Dorset Wildlife Trust's Management Team:



Dr Simon Cripps, Chief Executive

Simon grew up in Dorset. He moved back to the UK in 2008 after 20 years abroad to become Chief Executive of DWT. Simon's previous job was as WWF's Global Marine Director based in Geneva. He was WWF's lead on marine issues and their representative at the United Nations. Prior to that he was Chief Scientist at a large consultancy based in Norway working for the offshore oil industry. Qualifying as a Reader (Associate Professor) and certified lecturer, he initially worked as a university lecturer in Sweden after a doctorate in fish-farm engineering at Heriot-Watt University, Edinburgh. Simon has training in business management and communications and worked for a year as a commercial inshore fisherman. He is currently the Chair of the Dorset Local Nature Partnership, a board member of the Southern Inshore Fisheries & Conservation Authority, a Poole Harbour Commissioner, Chair of the SW Wildlife Trusts CEOs on the Steering Group of the Dorset Coast Forum and is a Rotarian.



Imogen Davenport, Director of Conservation

Imogen has worked for Dorset Wildlife Trust since 1996, becoming Head of Conservation in 2001 and Director of Conservation in 2009, overseeing all of DWT's conservation activities. She has a degree in Environmental Science and prior to moving to Dorset volunteered for several wildlife charities in Berkshire and worked as countryside ranger in Buckinghamshire and for Surrey Wildlife Trust as a botanical surveyor. Imogen has been closely involved over the years in development of Dorset's biodiversity strategy, its Sites of Nature Conservation Interest (SNCI) project, the Dorset Local Nature Partnership and DWT's Living Landscapes approach.



Steve Davis MInstLM AssocCIPD, Head of HR & Volunteering

Steve has worked for the Trust since 2006, when he took on the role of Volunteers Support Officer. That role developed over several years and grew to incorporate managing several training programmes such as the V Inspired project for young people, and the HLF funded Skills for the Future programme. Taking on the added responsibility of HR in 2013, Steve now holds the position of Head of HR & Volunteering. Steve still makes time to get out of the office when he can, and holds the Trust licence for work with smooth snake and sand lizard. He is also a keen runner.



Alastair Cook, Director of Fundraising and Marketing



As the Director of Fundraising & Marketing, Alastair oversees all our fundraising, membership and communications programmes. Alastair joined Dorset Wildlife Trust in April 2004 having spent the previous 20 years in marketing and sales management roles in UK blue chip healthcare & pharmaceutical companies. He is also a Director of South West Wildlife Fundraising Limited, a company that provides fundraising services to the seven south west Wildlife Trusts. Alastair has lived in north Dorset for many years and is a volunteer surveyor for the Dorset Otter Group.



Sue Patterson, Director of Finance

Sue is a Chartered Accountant and worked in practice in London for a number of years, initially in the corporate sector and latterly specialising in the not for profit sector. Clients included overseas aid and grant making charities, various professional institutes and further education establishments. Sue moved to Dorset in 2011 to join Dorset Wildlife Trust having been a keen volunteer with the Kent Wildlife Trust. She is the Company Secretary of Dorset Wildlife Trust and a director of DTNC (Sales) Limited and Dorset Ecology Limited.



Brian Bleese, Director of Operations and Development

Brian has been with DWT since 1998 and has held a variety of roles over the past 18 years. The role of Director of Operations and Development is a broad and varied one overseeing and ensuring that key core operational functions including, Health and Safety, Human Resources, ICT, resources and infrastructure, are fit for purpose. Brian also leads and supports all departments in the development of major projects. These have recently included the development of the Chesil Beach Centre, The Great Heath initiative and the installation of renewable biomass heating systems at a number of DWT facilities. Brian also represents DWT on a number of external bodies including the Dorset AONB Board, Wessex Angling Trust, Dorset Food and Drink and as Chairman of the Purbeck Heritage Network. A Swanage resident with local roots in the Purbeck stone quarrying industry, Brian enjoys sea angling, photography and exploring local food and drink.



Rob Brunt, Head of Land Management



Rob has been managing the DWT's nature reserves since 1989. Graduated in Biological Sciences in 1980, Rob has worked for a variety of different conservation organisations across the country, including RSPB and Nature Conservancy Council (now Natural England), from Orkney to Devon, as a wildlife surveyor and habitat manager. As Head of Land Management, Rob advises on land management issues relating to the Trust's own landholdings and SNCIs.

Andrew Pollard, Head of Landscapes & Living Seas



Andrew's role is to lead the development of our Living Landscapes and Seas programmes to deliver large-scale wildlife conservation works and encourage local communities to get involved and run DWT's visitor centres. Andrew has worked for Dorset Wildlife Trust since 2003, when he returned to the county he grew up in. Before starting with the Trust Andrew held posts relating to biodiversity conservation with a number of organisations including Plymouth University, Kent County Council and Somerset Environmental Records Centre. Andrew and his young family enjoy all that the greatest county in the world has to offer; whether that's hunting heathland insects or kayaking along Dorset's rich coastline.